



On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. ARRA provides increased support to several existing federal programs administered by states, creates new programs such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and offers opportunities for states to apply for competitive grant programs.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's significant investment in North Carolina totaled almost \$19.5 billion, including assistance for those needing help the most through increases in unemployment benefits, Medicaid payments, and food stamps. In addition to those expanded services, ARRA gives hundreds of thousands of working North Carolinians a break through tax credits like the *Making Work Pay* tax credit and the *First Time Homebuyer's* tax credit.

The Recovery Act is not like earlier attempts to revive the nation's economy. It is not only a one-time infusion of federal funds; instead it is a long-term effort to restore economic expansion in the short-term, as well as prepare the nation's economy for stable, healthy long-term growth. Under the terms of the Recovery Act, support for North Carolina's economy will include both investments made directly by the federal government and investments of federal funds that are made under the oversight of the North Carolina state government.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report, Lincoln County

Lincoln County received more than \$79 million in ARRA funding in grants, loans, and bonds. The following report outlines the various funding categories that contributed to the Lincoln County total.



New COPS:
6



Small Business Jobs:
262

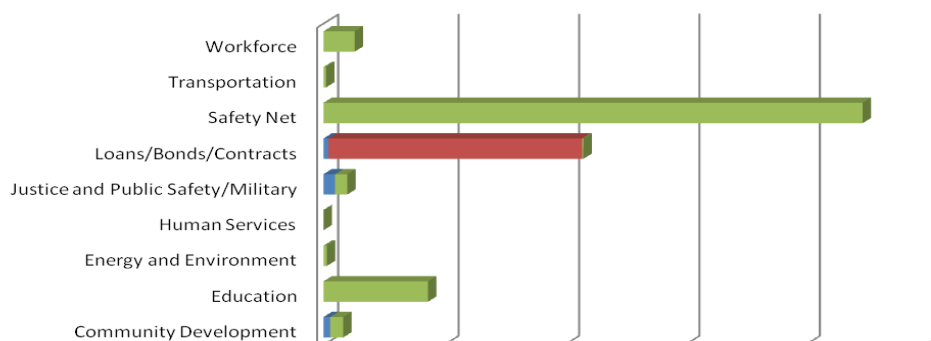


Appliances rebated:
151



Family homes financed:
95

Lincoln County Totals



Lincoln County,
pop 71,498 at a glance:

Recovery Act Totals:
Grants: \$58,469,329.91
Loans: \$ 16,902,498
Bonds: \$ 4,177,786.00

Total: \$79,549,593.91



Education

The Recovery Act placed a special emphasis on maintaining education funding. Governor Beverly Perdue furthered this commitment by pledging additional recovery funds from the Recovery Act to education, and leading North Carolina to additional funds by winning \$400 million in the Race to the Top program.

Most of the ARRA education funds are distributed to local schools through existing funding formulas. Special Education Funds and Title I funds go to schools based on eligible student enrollment. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) and the EduJobs grants were designed to hold schools harmless during the recession, and were distributed to public and charter schools. The school systems have spent the majority of the funds on staff and support. Some projects, such as Race to the Top, will be spent for purchasing products and services rather than salaries for staff.

Authorization for low/no interest bonds for school construction/renovation followed the Department of Public Instruction procedures with initial allotments to the school systems. If a school system could not utilize their allotment, it was released to other school systems that could utilize additional allotments.

Lincoln County schools received \$15 million in education funding, including \$2.5 million in Special Education funds, \$1 million in Title I funds, \$6 million in SFSF funds, \$1 million in Race to the Top funding, and a \$4 million bond allocation.



Family Assistance

The Federal Department of Agriculture increased funding to their Single-Family home program with the ARRA. These resources assisted families in achieving the American Dream of home ownership through direct financial assistance (grants) or credit (loan guarantees). This program pumped more than \$729 million into North Carolina, providing assistance to more than 5,400 families.

In Lincoln County, 95 families received assistance through this program totaling almost \$12 million.

The Department of Energy created the Energy Star Appliance rebate program to help stimulate the economy by incentivizing the purchase of new, more energy efficient appliances, and helping consumers by providing long-term savings from their utility bills. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce managed the program insuring North Carolina residents and retailers received the maximum benefit from this opportunity. North Carolina retailers sold more than 25,500 new energy efficiency appliances through this program, and North Carolina residents will enjoy energy savings for years to come. The program was so successful, that the State Energy Office reprogrammed additional funding to provide discounts to everyone participating in the program, bringing the total program value from \$8 up to \$10 Million.

Lincoln County retailers sold 151 appliances through the Energy Star Appliance rebate program.



Small Business Assistance

The ARRA provided tax breaks, increased depreciation of business assets, and incentives for hiring for small businesses through the tax law changes found in Part B of the Act. The Recovery Act also established direct aid programs through the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA). These programs provided grants, loans and loan guarantees to grant small businesses access to much-needed operational credit during 2009 and 2010.

In Lincoln County 13 small businesses received SBA loan guarantees worth almost \$5 million. According to the small businesses receiving these loans, the Recovery Act saved or created 262 jobs.



CARS Program

The Car Allowance Rebate Program (CARS), more widely known as the 'Cash-for-Clunkers' program, provided an incentive for drivers of older, energy inefficient vehicles to upgrade to new cars. This program also provided a large economic impact in North Carolina, and North Carolina dealers received more than 18,000 trade-in vehicles through this program. North Carolina Car Dealers sold more than \$400,000,000 worth of new cars (recommended MSRP) through the CARS program. North Carolina drivers will save 172,130 miles per gallon through cars purchased through this program.

In Lincoln County, car dealers sold 49 cars almost \$1 million through the ARRA CARS program.



Justice and Public Safety Programs

ARRA increased funding to the federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Program (JAG). JAG funds were awarded both as a formula allocation to the State, for \$34.5 million, and grants distributed by the Governor's Crime Commission to various local governments and entities. In addition, \$21,853,798 went to 216 local governments across the state for various purposes in line with the requirements of the act. Finally, there is a federal competitive portion that was open to state or local government applicants.

In Lincoln County, the Lincoln County Government and the City of Lincolnton received \$120,000 in JAG program grants.

The COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) awards grants to law enforcement agencies to hire and train community policing professionals, acquire and deploy cutting-edge crime-fighting technologies, and develop and test innovative policing strategies. COPS funding also provides training and technical assistance to community members and local government leaders and all levels of law. In order to help leverage the efficiency of these programs Governor

Perdue set aside additional funding to help pay for uniforms and equipment for local governments who have new COPS funded positions.

In Lincoln County, the Lincoln County Government received funding for 6 officers through the COPS program. These grants were worth almost \$1 million.



Green Energy Programs

One of the goals of ARRA was to provide grants to help conserve energy and assist in the development of a green economy. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce received large grants for energy conservation under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These grants include the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), funded at just under \$20 million, and the State Energy Plan (SEP), funded at \$70 million. The State Energy Office then used these grants to make awards to businesses, non-profits, and local governments for various purposes.

In Lincoln County, the Lincoln County Government received an EECBG grant worth \$46,450 to upgrade lighting in four buildings.



Military Programs

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act included approximately \$7.4 billion in defense-related appropriations. This includes funding for all service areas and the Army Corps of Engineers. Recovery Act funding addressed some of the unique economic pressures faced by American service members because of their voluntary commitment to serve our nation. The Recovery Act included assistance to service members, upgrades aimed to improve the quality of life for troops and their families, funded three new facilities, and two new VA hospitals in North Carolina, addressing critical needs across the state. In addition to providing much needed facility improvements, this bill also provides more funding for our energy research programs, so that Department of Defense (DOD) can continue to lead the way in the national effort to achieve greater energy independence. North Carolina had 103 military projects funded for a total of \$166 million.

In Lincoln County, the Department of the Air Force contracted for a \$300,000 repair for a water and sewer project.



Safety Net Programs

Safety net programs are the category of ARRA funding that consists of programs designed to help populations made particularly vulnerable by the economic crisis. These generally include increases in existing programs, most notably the increase in both benefit level and duration of unemployment payments. Increases in the amount and duration of unemployment payments makes up the largest chunk of safety net programs funded through the Recovery Act, totaling more than \$3.5 billion statewide over more than two years. Safety net programs such as unemployment insurance and SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), not only benefit the recipient, but have a proven economic impact on a community.

Lincoln County residents received more than \$37 million in Unemployment Insurance increases during the 2 ½ year ARRA benefits increase. County residents also received \$4 million in SNAP benefit increases, and \$3 million in one-time payments of \$250 to social security recipients.

Lincoln County Feature Story

Lincoln County Puts COPS to Work

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies, which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. The alignment of organizational management, structure, personnel, and information systems help to support community partnerships and proactive problem solving. Collaborative partnerships between the law enforcement agency, the individuals and organizations they serve, develops solutions to problems and increase trust in police.

The Community Oriented Policing Services Grant (COPS) is a national competitive grant established by the U.S. Department of Justice. COPS funding provides training and technical assistance to community members, local government leaders, and all levels of law enforcement. North Carolina received \$30,956,114 in COPS funding, which represents 202 officers in 50 communities. The COPS grants pay for the training and first four years of an officer, allowing counties to increase their presence, and enhance public safety during the economic downturn.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department applied for additional officers through the Recovery-funded COPS program. On July 1, 2009 the Federal Department of Justice awarded a COPS grants to Lincoln County to fund 6 officers. This grant was worth more than \$889,000.

The COPS program covers new officer training and initial employment period, but not the equipment costs involved in fielding a new public safety officer. As a way to increase the efficiency of the COPS program, the Governor's Crime Commission set aside additional funding from the Recovery-funded Justice Assistance Grants to help with outfitting and equipping the COPS hires. The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department received almost \$24,000 in additional Recovery funding, \$4,000 per new officer, to help defray these costs.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department had a plan for these new officers. In the initial application for the COPS grants, the Department cited activities and numerous citizens complaints focused on convenience stores located on Hwy 321.

The six officers' mission was community policing. The Recovery-funded officers were not assigned to any specific district to answer calls for service. However, the new officers utilized crime mapping and citizen input to identify hotspot areas within the county. This effort resulted in over 10 trafficking charges for controlled substances along highway 321 and associated exits. This was made possible due to the grant officers vigilantly communicating with the citizens in that community. The COPS officers are continuing to track and map high crime areas and rely on citizen input for information relevant to community policing, and enhance public safety.



Appendix, Lincoln County breakout

Federal Agency	Program Title	Recipient name	Recipient role ⁱ	Prime Amount ⁱⁱ	Unique Sub Awards ⁱⁱⁱ	Loans	Additional Economic Activity (not counted toward totals) ^{iv}
	Bonds		P			\$4,177,786.00	
	Cash for Clunkers		S		\$198,500.00		
	Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans - Guaranteed	Individuals	L			\$11,946,778.00	
Department of Agriculture	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Multiple Individuals	S		\$4,159,773.09		
Department of Energy	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)	Lincoln, County of	S	\$0.00	\$46,450.00	\$0.00	
Department of Health and Human Services	Aging Congregate Nutrition Services for States	Lincoln Senior Services Department	SV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Department of Housing and Urban Development	Public Housing Capital Fund Formula (Recovery Act Funded)		PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$492,496.00
		Lincolnton Housing Authority	P	\$547,196.00		\$0.00	\$547,196.00
		Stogner Architecture, Pa	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$54,700.00
Department of Justice	Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	Lincoln, County of	P	\$889,566.00		\$0.00	\$889,566.00
	Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program / Grants To Units Of Local Government	Lincoln, County of	P	\$49,070.00		\$0.00	\$49,070.00
		Lincolnton, City Of	P	\$25,945.00		\$0.00	\$25,945.00
	Recovery Act - Eward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant	Lincoln, County of	S	\$0.00	\$23,999.88	\$0.00	

	(JAG) Program/ Grants to States and Territories						
	Recovery Act - State Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program	Lincoln County Coalition Against Child Abuse	S	\$0.00	\$21,830.40	\$0.00	
Department of Labor	Unemployment Insurance	Multiple Individuals	S		\$37,356,942.61		
Department of the Air Force	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Arrow Builders, Inc.	P	\$299,538.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Federal Transit Administration	Formula Grants for Other Than Urbanized Areas	Lincoln County Emergency Medical Services	S	\$0.00	\$216,525.00	\$0.00	
Food and Nutrition Service	Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability	Lincoln County School District	S	\$0.00	\$33,554.48	\$0.00	\$26,364.55
Idaho Operations Office	Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP)		P			\$0.00	\$102,770.78
National Park Service.	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Vt Leeboy, Inc.	P	\$102,770.78		\$0.00	
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	Education Technology State Grants, Recovery Act	Lincoln County School District	S	\$0.00	\$32,365.00	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Education State Grants, Recovery Act	Lincoln Charter School Inc	S	\$0.00	\$590,051.00	\$0.00	
		Lincoln County School District	S	\$0.00	\$5,801,296.00	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grants, Recovery Act	Lincoln County School District	S	\$0.00	\$855,639.00	\$0.00	
	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act	Lincoln County School District	S	\$0.00	\$1,271,657.00	\$0.00	
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Special Education - Preschool Grants, Recovery Act	Lincoln County School District	S	\$0.00	\$93,952.00	\$0.00	
	Special Education Grants to States, Recovery Act	Lincoln Charter School Inc	S	\$0.00	\$196,915.34	\$0.00	
		Lincoln County	S	\$0.00	\$2,388,043.00	\$0.00	

		School District							
Small Business Administration	Loans	Cabling Solutions, Inc.	L					\$550,000.00	
		CI Great Deals Inc	L					\$12,000.00	
		Klassic Rides LLC	L					\$395,800.00	
		Lake Norman Gymnastics Academy	L					\$551,000.00	
		Mad Dawg, Inc.	L					\$1,895,000.00	
		Matthews Properties Of Vale, L	L					\$35,000.00	
		Ostec Industries Corp.	L					\$516,000.00	
		R-Anell Housing Group LLC	L					\$117,900.00	
		Team Robinson Inc	L					\$400,000.00	
		The Drumnetics Company, LLC	L					\$40,000.00	
		Totally Fit 4 Life PLLC	L					\$152,000.00	
		West Lincoln Veterinary Hospit	L					\$291,000.00	
SSA	Social Security Economic Recovery Act Payments	Multiple Individuals	P				\$3,267,750.00		
Grand Total						\$1,914,086.12	\$56,555,243.79	\$21,080,264.00	\$2,188,108.33

ⁱ Recipient Role are as follows: P is a prime recipient; S is a Sub-recipient; PV is a vendor to a prime recipient; SV is a vendor to a sub-recipient; L is a loan recipient.

ⁱⁱ Prime Amounts are unique prime awards within a county. These are entities who have received funding directly from a federal agency, and are required to report directly to www.federalreporting.gov

ⁱⁱⁱ Unique Sub Awards are amounts that flow into a county from a source that is NOT directly from a Federal Agency. Generally these are funds awarded to the North Carolina State Government that have been directed to a local source.

^{iv} Additional Economic Activity are economic activity attributable to a previous funding category. They may be a sub award by a prime recipient within a county, or a contract funded by one of the previous three columns. This economic activity is not counted toward the county total.